

REMARKS

Please reconsider this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering the application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-19 were pending in the instant application. By way of this reply, claims 11-14, 17, and 19 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 15-16, and 18 are now pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 15, 16, and 18 are independent. The remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge the formal drawings filed on November 24, 2003, and indicate whether they are acceptable.

Restriction Under 35 U.S.C. § 121

Claims 1-19 are subject to a restriction requirement pursuant to an Office communication dated February 27, 2008. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect Invention I as identified by the Examiner, which corresponds to claims 1-10, 15-16, and 18. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 15-16, and 18 are elected for continued prosecution without traverse.

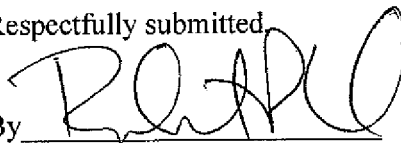
Conclusion

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 37202/127002; 990050US).

Dated: March 27, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By



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